

REMARKS

The pending Office Action allowed claims 12-18, 35 and 36 and rejected claims 19-21, 37 and 82-105. This amendment cancels without prejudice rejected claims 19-21, 37 and 82-105. No claims are added or amended.

The present amendment also corrects the specification's priority claim and cross-reference to related applications, consistent with the concurrently filed petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(3). Applicants wish to point out that "family tree" diagrams of related applications, which were submitted in conjunction with the Interviews of 10/14/04, 6/6/05 and 5/24/06, may have inadvertently contained errors in the manner in which some of the applications were depicted as related. In view of the present amendment of the priority claim, these relationships are no longer relevant and Applicants request that the Examiner simply disregard the previously submitted family tree documents.

In view of the cancellation without prejudice of all of the rejected claims, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance but for the Suggestions of Interferences. Filed herewith is a revised Suggestion of Interference with U.S. Patent 6,096,052 and a new Suggestions of Interference with U.S. Patent Nos. 6,432,116. Applicants respectfully request that an Interference be declared with dispatch.

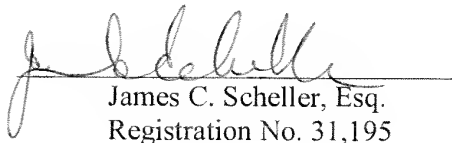
If any issues remain that may be resolved through a telephone interview, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' counsel at the number noted below.

Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: Oct. 15, 2007

By: _____


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